

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The non-Final Office Action of February 13, 2003 has been received and contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 7-16 are currently pending. Claims 1-6 have been cancelled, and claims 15 and 16 have been amended.

The Examiner rejected claims 15 and 16 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.


Claims 15 and 16 have been amended in accordance with the Examiners suggestion to overcome the rejection under 35 USC § 112. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner deems that a telephone conference would help expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7371. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Dated: May 1, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By  Reg. No. 41786
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Attachment:

Exhibit I – Version with markings to show changes made to the claims

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15. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the [etchant] solution contains about 8 to 16% by weight of hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2).

16. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein [the] an etching rate of the solution is about 1000 Å/min.